insurance sector, Railways, Defence, Airlines, Airports, etc., from all over the country have come here. They are demanding withdrawal of all anti-worker and anti-people policies of the Government, and asking the Government to adopt some urgent measures to protect their livelihood in the current economic crisis in the country. Sir, the purchasing power of the people is to be raised; more jobs are to be created. To strengthen the public sector, the medium sector is to be strengthened. At present, the jobless growth is going on. So, the Government should pay attention to all these issues. Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government, and request the hon. Minister to respond to these issues. Sir, the workers and employees are demonstrating on the streets.

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR (Tripura): Sir, I associate myself with it.

SHRI P.R. RAJAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with this subject.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with it.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu.

Re. Attack on a former M.P. and Central Minister in High Court Premises

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to draw the attention of the House to a very shocking incident. Sir, there is no Parliamentary Affairs Minister or...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kapil Sibal is sitting there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): They don't recognise me. ...*(Interruptions)*... I always want to sit in the back. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. You are sitting in the third row, and they want you to sit in the first row. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, how can anybody ignore Kapil Sibalji? I said, 'the Parliamentary Affairs Minister'. I did not say, 'there is no Minister.'

Sir, I rise to draw the attention of this House to a very shocking incident that has taken place in the premises of the Madras High Court yesterday. This is something shocking. We may have political differences; we may have ideological differences or we may have differences on the basis of issues also. But, a former Member of Parliament, a former Union Minister, the President of a party, when he went to the court, he wanted to plead himself, he was initially heckled, then he was attacked, then axe was thrown on him. Then, there were slogans also, taking the name of a particular caste. This all happened in the premises of a High Court. What is shocking is, Sir, I have the news with me, where the Commissioner of the Chennai Police says that the

Government have advanced information that something is going to happen. Sir, I don't want to take much time of the House. He has gone on record, in the *Hindu* today, Sir, Mr. Radhakrishnan says, "There was advanced information that something could go wrong during Swamy's visit to the court." So, that being the case, the police should have taken precautions, number one. Number two, when this has happened within the court, they should have taken the permission of the court to take action against the people. Even the police constables were manhandled. There were slogans about a particular community. It is very unfair, condemnable. I also differ with Swamiji on certain issues. But, at the same time, if this could happen in the premises of a court, what would happen to the common people? I would like the Government to get a report from the Tamil Nadu Government on what has happened and inform the House, assure the House that the law will take its own course and action would be taken against the people who are responsible for this. Thank you, Sir.

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the hon. Member.

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MOTION OF THANKS ON PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra): Sir, I stand to support the Motion of Thanks to the President for her Address. The Address of the President starts with this question: *aam aadmi ko kya mila?* The whole Address is in reply to this question. Sir, this is a coalition Government and it has almost completed its term. Sir, this itself is an achievement. But the UPA Government has not played any politics of doing nothing. The Government has done many things, it has taken many measures for the common man. The Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is really a very substantial step for the common man. It is a step for ameliorating poverty of the people. Aam Bima Yojana. There are various other social measures that this Government has taken. For instance, the poverty alleviation scheme is very important. Many programmes are there and Bharat Nirman is a very big programme indeed. Therefore, this Government has done many substantial things. This Government has given a proper direction to agriculture which was not given so much of attention in the past. Now, the growth rate of agriculture is nearly 4 per cent. This is a great achievement. The debt waiver is again a very revolutionary step.

As far as social justice is concerned, many measures have been taken. I need not give an account of the whole thing. The Grameen Nyayalaya Scheme, again, is a very important step. The nuclear agreement is the crowning achievement of this Government. Sir, I need not mention all these things because the earlier speakers have done so. The Government, of course, could not do certain things. For instance, the Government had declared to implement the reservation policy to the private sector also, but it could not do so. For a very long time, the Bill for the reservation of women could not be passed in this House. Had it been done so, it would have been a very substantial step in that direction. The Government has kept the common man in